

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /059 W
-----311844Z 008775 /46

R 311632Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4963
INFO AMCONSUL FLORENCE
AMCONSUL MIALN
AMCONSUL NAPLES

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, IT
SUBJECT: PARTY REACTIONS TO DC DOCUMENT FOR A PROGRAM ACCORD
ARE MIXED

SUMMARY. THE DC DIRECTORATE WILL MEET ON JUNE 1 TO CONSIDER
THE REACTIONS OF THE OTHER PARTIES TO ITS SUMMARY DOCUMENT
(DISTRIBUTED ON MAY 28) ON THE POINTS THAT MIGHT BE
AN INTERPARTY AGREEMENT INCLUDED IN/ ON THE CONTENT OF THE MIN-
ORITY GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAM. THE DIRECTORATE WILL PROBABLY
ALSO WEIGH PCI AND PSI DEMANDS FOR ONE OR TWO "COLLEGIAL"
MEETINGS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL THE PARTIES TO RESOLVE
OUTSTANDING DIFFERENCES. PRELIMINARY PARTY REACTIONS
HAVE RANGED FROM GENERAL SATISFACTION (LIBERALS AND
REPUBLICANS) TO HARSH CRITICISM (THE SOCIALISTS). THE
PSI JUDGES THE DOCUMENT "SHOLLY UNSATISFACTORY" AND RENEWS
A PREVIOUS DEMAND FOR FORMATION OF A "NEW GOVERNMENT"
WHICH BRINGS THE PCI INTO THE MAJORITY. THE COMMUNISTS
APPEAR EMBARRASSED BY THE PSI CRITICISM AS WELL AS BY THE
UNAUTHORIZED LEAKING OF A SUMMARY OF THE DC DOCUMENT
(SEPTEL) TO THE PRESS. THEY ARE ALSO DISSATISFIED WITH
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THE ALLEGED OMISSION OF CERTAIN AGREED SUBJECTS SUCH AS
MASS COMMUNICATIONS AND PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS TO STATE-
CONTROLLED ENTITIES. END SUMMARY.

1. WITHIN HOURS AFTER IT WAS DELIVERED TO THE OTHER
PARTIES ON MAY 28, THE DC'S SUMMARY DOCUMENT OF THE POSI-
TIONS TAKEN DURING THE INTER-PARTY NEGOTIATIONS FOR A

PROGRAM ACCORD FELL INTO THE HANDS OF THE PRESS. ALTHOUGH ALL THE PARTIES HAD PREVIOUSLY AGREED THAT THE DOCUMENT WOULD BE CONSIDERED HIGHLY SENSITIVE AND CONFIDENTIAL, NEARLY ALL PAPERS HAVE PUBLISHED EXCERPTS OF THE 14-PAGE DC PAPER. AS EVIDENT FROM THE PRESS SUMMARIES (SEPTEL), THE DC DOCUMENT IS FAIRLY GENERAL IN CONTENT AND OMITTS MOST CONTENTIOUS PROBLEMS. THE PARTIES HAVE BEEN REQUESTED TO PROVIDE THEIR VIEWS ON IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE DC DIRECTORATE WILL MEET ON JUNE 1 TO CONSIDER THE REACTION AND DETERMINE A STRATEGY FOR THE NEXT PHASE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.

2. THE PUBLICATION OF THE MAIN ELEMENTS OF THE DOCUMENT SEEMS TO HAVE PUT THE COMMUNISTS IN AN UNCOMFORTABLE POSITION. THE DC NATURALLY DRAFTED ITS DOCUMENT IN TERMS THAT WERE MOST PALATABLE TO IT. THE SOCIALISTS IMMEDIATELY ATTACKED THE DOCUMENT AS WHOLLY INADEQUATE AND REITERATED THEIR PREVIOUS DEMANDS FOR A "PRE-COORDINATED PROGRAM" WHICH CAN SERVE AS THE BASIS OF "A NEW GOVERNMENT" WHICH WOULD INCLUDE THE PCI IN THE MAJORITY. IT IS SMALL WONDER THEN, THAT FACED WITH THE HARSHLY CRITICAL POSITION TAKEN BY THE PSI, THE PCI SHARPLY CRITICIZED THE LEAKING AND PUBLICATION OF THE DOCUMENT IN AN OFFICIAL NOTE IN L'UNITA.

3. BESIDES THE FACT THAT IT WAS PUBLISHED, THE PCI IS ALSO CLEARLY DISSATISFIED WITH THE DC DOCUMENT ITSELF, ALTHOUGH NOT SO MUCH SO AS TO CONSIDER IT WITHOUT ANY REDEEMING VALUE. PCI SEVRETRIAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEMBER BUFALINI, FOR EXAMPLE, AGAIN UNDERLINED THE "IMPORTANCE AND THE NEWNESS" OF THE NEGOTIATIONS "EVEN THOUGH WE ARE NOT YET AT A TURNING POINT BECAUSE OF THE LIMITATIONS THAT THE DC MAINTAINS AGAINST THE PCI'S ENTRY INTO THE GOVERNMENT MAJORITY." IN REPLY TO THE PCI'S CRITICS (IE. THE SOCIALISTS), L'UNITA'S NEW EDITOR REICHLIN DEFENSIVELY ARGUED THAT "WHO SPEAKS OF SURRENDERING ON THE PART OF THE PCI TELLS THE OPPOSITE FROM THE TRUTH. ONLY A YEAR AGO, THE DC SWORE THAT IT WOULD NEVER SIT AROUND A TABLE WITH US, BUT NOW ITS LEADERS ARE BEGINNING TO TAKE NOTICE OF REALITY."

4. THE PCI HAS TWO BASIC PROBLEMS WITH THE DC DOCUMENT. FIRSTLY, IF IT IS TO BE USED AS THE BASIS FOR A PROGRAM ACCORD, THE DC DOCUMENT SAYS TOO MUCH OF A "LISTING OF DC POSITIONS". NAPOLITANO CALLED IT A "DOCUMENT FOR INTERNAL DC NEEDS". SECONDLY, THE PCI CHARGES THAT "THE NEGOTIATIONS WENT MUCH BEYOND" THOSE POINTS

SUMMARIZED IN THE DC DOCUMENT. WHY, THE PCI ASKS, IS THERE NO MENTION OF "AGREEMENTS REACHED" ON YOUTH PROBLEMS, THE MEDIA AND RAI TV, ON EDUCATION, AND THE PERSONNEL NOMINATIONS TO STATE ENTITIES"? THE PCI'S CRITICISM IS NOT HARSH IN TONE, HOWEVER, AND THE PARTY STRONGLY SUGGESTS THAT THESE PROBLEMS COULD BE CLEARED UP IN ONE OR TWO "COLLEGIAL" MEETINGS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL THE PARTIES.

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5. THE SOCIALISTS ALSO RENEW THEIR CALL FOR "COLLEGIAL" MEETINGS, BUT THEIR CRITICISM OF THE DC DOCUMENT IS MORE STRIDENT AND MENACING. SINCE LAST WEEKS CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING BEGRUDGINGLY SUSTAINED CRAXI'S POLICY LINE THAT THE PSI SHOULD NOT PROVOKE A GOVERNMENT CRISIS, THE STRONG PSI REACTION IS PUZZLING. THE PSI IS DEMANDING A "COLLEGIAL" MEETING NOT ONLY TO CLARIFY DISAGREEMENTS ON THE PROGRAM (THE PSI STILL OPPOSES THE PREVENTIVE DETENTION BILL, FOR EXAMPLE) BUT ONE WHICH SHOULD LEAD TO NOTHING LESS THAN THE FORMATION OF A NEW GOVERNMENT. IN AN AVANTI EDITORIAL, THE PSI MAKES CLEAR THAT AN ACCORD WHICH MERELY "REGISTERS SOME SECTORIAL AGREEMENTS AND LEAVES ALL THE CONTROLVERSIAL PROBLEMS, BIG OR SMALL, FOR EXAMINATION IN PARLIAMENT" IS COMPLETELY INSUFFICIENT. THE PSDI, ALBEIT IN MORE MUTED TERMS, ALSO DECRIES THE THINNESS OF THE DC DOCUMENT.

6. IN CONTRAST, THE REPUBLICANS AND LIBERALS HAVE
EXPRESSED GENERAL SATISFACTION WITH THE DOCUMENT.
WRITING IN THE PRI NEWSPAPER, LA MALFA SAID THE DC
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SUMMARY "FINALLY OFFERS A STARGING POINT WHICH AVOIDS
ALL EQUIVOCATION AND GENERALTIES". THE LIBERALS
ALSO JUDGED THE DOCUMENT AS PROVIDING THE BASIS FOR
AN ACCORD.GARDNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
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SAS ID: 2376857
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PARTY REACTIONS TO DC DOCUMENT FOR A PROGRAM ACCORD ARE MIXED SUMMAY. THE DC DIRECTORATE WILL MEET ON JUNE 1 TO
TAGS: PINT, IT
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3c61498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009